

### What the Editors Say.

"Smoking Hughes out" is the burden imposed by the democrats upon President Wilson. It looks to the impartial observer as though the president was bewildered in his own smudge just now and needs some one to blow him out.—Sheridan Sun.

Foster's Index of American Prices is authority for the statement that since 1906 the dollar has lost 40 cents of its purchasing power. A salary of \$2,000 now goes no further than the salary of \$1,200 then. And the man who works, today realizes that a dollar doesn't go far in supplying the necessities for the home.—News Reporter.

The Sheridan Sun, one of the best papers that come to our exchange table, is meeting the high cost of print paper by dispensing with ready prints. Economy is not the only thing gained however, for additional self respect goes with the absence of the patent medicine and other advertising which the ready print houses are apparently unable to do business without. Seaside Signal.

What's your hobby? The collecting of wishbones has been one of the hobbies of George E. Hatch, the veteran mail carrier. For the past 25 years, whenever a wishbone showed up his way, whether it was from a duck or a chicken or any kind of fowl Mr. Hatch just added it to his collection and now he has them on display in the windows of the Welsh Electric company at North Commercial Street. Besides collecting wishbones, Mr. Hatch has an interesting collection of about 3000 stamps.—Salem Journal.

The democratic press is very much elated over the fact that Henry Ford and Luther Burbank have come out openly for the re-election of President Wilson, but they are as close-mouthed as an oyster over the defection of George Harvey, the man who practically made Mr. Wilson president. Now Ford may know a good deal about how to create a big demand for a certain type of automobile, and Burbank is undoubtedly a wizard in the giving of new varieties of spuds. The people of this country have given both unstinted praise and patronage for their achievements, although their lines of their specialties, but when it comes to the matter of an opinion on the great question of national and international affairs, how far reaching is their support of Wilson and his policies, compared with resplendent reasoning and powerful influence of the great editor of the North American Review, Colonel George Harvey, who now rejects him, after weighing him in the scale of three years' trial and found him wanting?—Umpqua Valley News.

In an interview remarkable in the history of statesmanship Lloyd George has told the world of England's purpose. In the vernacular of the prize ring he describes the struggle as one that will "go to a knockout." "The whole world," he said, "including neutrals of the highest purposes and humanitarians with the best motives, must know that there can be no outside interference at this stage. Britain asks no interference when she was not prepared to fight. She will tolerate none now that she is prepared, until Prussian military despotism is broken beyond repair." These words breathe the spirit of a man who, smarting from the drubbing of an adversary, has gotten a thumb into the other fellow's eye and is gloating with the unholy joy of twisting it. England has been pummeled, and she purposes getting even. He not only speaks for England, but France and Russia as well. The prospect for peace is not bright. Along with this interview comes announcement of a French loan made in New York, and in the same city Germany is advertising for subscriptions for her fifth war loan.—Telephone Register.

What causes accidents to individuals on railroads? Carelessness in every instance! The automobilist tries to beat the train over the crossing. The school child playfully crawls under the cars or "hops" the train. The workman takes a short cut home or to work using the railroad track as a public thoroughfare. They are not required to do this. There is no necessity for it. They do it because they are careless of the danger they foolishly risk, or because they refuse to think. And the morgue or the hospital gets them in the end. One of the saddest features of the whole thing is that 13,000 of the trespassers killed in the last twenty-five years were children under eighteen years of age. In many cases they were hardly old enough to be, themselves, blamed. They should have been taught better. In the meantime we should make it as nearly impossible as we can for them to get into situations where accidents are possible. Until parents realize that it is just as necessary to instruct children in Safety First principles as it is to take care of their health and morals, we will have to act for them.—The Bulletin.

#### Decadence in Oregon.

Sorrowfully but firmly must Oregon be admonished. She is not living up to the initiative and referendum, and yet she knows that states cannot be saved without that noble boon. Time was when she had a nobler spirit. In 1913 38 measures were initiated and referred to the people. In 1914 the consultation of the oracle of the polls were 29. In this lean year for reform the number has shrunk to 11. Possible the price in paper had a part in this curtailment of the direct election ballot, still of goodly size, but how can the deep-revolving Oregonian radicals bear to see the diminution? To be sure, there is choice marrow tucked away among the 11. There is an anti-compulsory vaccination bill. There is a single tax measure. The Oregonians have voted down the single tax several times, but the faithful are not discouraged. By this amendment the state, made every property

owner's landlord, would lease all the land, run the government with the rents, and establish a loan fund for the benefit of the persons who possess less than \$2250 worth of property.

A neat amendment, but what Oregon is reproved for is scandalous paucity of referendums. With only 11 measures, some of them delightfully technical, to master, and with only national, state and county candidates to pick and choose from, the Oregon voters won't have enough to do. They will get lazy.—New York Times.

#### Will Show Up Methods.

Word now comes that the price-fixing by the cement association is to be ventilated in court. The former manager of our own Oregon Portland Cement Co. alleges that a conspiracy is afoot to overcharge the public for cement bought for roads. As he was on the inside when the so-called conspiracy was initiated, and as the man whom he accuses are men with whom he had long been associated and whom he influenced to come into the company, his accusation is to be taken seriously. Whether he would have made all these charges if the company had not ousted him from high salaried managerial authority is beside the point. The fact of interest is that the row is on, and that some of the methods whereby taxpayers are victimized in purchase of road materials are to be shown up.—Oregon Voter.

#### Fewer and Better Churches.

In his farewell sermon the other day a Crosswell minister who is departing for another field told his congregation that in his opinion a single federated church, well supported, would be better for the community than a number of separate churches indifferently supported. His opinion is interesting, for it is further evidence that sincere and earnest church people are turning more and more every day to the ideal of fewer churches and better ones.

With the decline of dogma and the rise of a broader Christian spirit, the obstacles in the way of church consolidation are disappearing. A generalization or so ago the idea of consolidation of churches would have been held to be preposterous, for doctrine and ritual were regarded as more important than now. Really sincere church members looked upon their neighbors who were members of other sects as in no small spiritual danger because of their erroneous beliefs. This attitude is rapidly passing, however, and the churches are learning that there is a common ground upon which they can all unite. This, of course, makes possible the consolidation movement.

There can be no doubt that in towns of the size of Creswell and larger the support of several churches entails a burden that might be avoided if all were united in a single church and the effort necessary to stand up under this burden doubtless detracts from the usefulness of the church. Because of duplication that might be avoided ministers are poorly paid and other activities are compelled to suffer. It is not improbable that the cost involved keeps some people out of the church who might otherwise be in it.

For obvious reasons where there are many congregations the community side of church work must be neglected, for community interest cannot be fastened upon a number of separate institutions. This is unfortunate, for the opportunities of the church in a community sense are almost limitless. In the smaller places the church might well perform many of the functions of Commercial clubs in larger towns, and gain its usefulness by doing it. No harm could possibly come of mixing religion more liberally with the affairs of everyday life. It will probably be some time before the movement of consolidation of churches reaches the point of definite action, for there are still many difficulties that must be cleared away before anything positive can be done, but it is both interesting and encouraging to note the progress that has been made in this direction.—Oregon Register.

#### The German Spirit.

We wish that all Americans might read this little volume of Professor Kuno Francke, especially the first two essays. It is a sympathetic, but not uncritical, portrayal of the German people by a German-American who appreciates and sympathizes with both the Americans and the Germans. No American can read it with an open mind and not get a kinder and, we believe, juster view of the German people. He will also get from it a somewhat more hopeful view of the outcome of this terrible war; as, for example, in the following sentences, quoted from the address of a German captain on the field: "This, I think, is true—the war has created a mutual respect between the fighting peoples; and upon the basis of this mutual respect there may perhaps arise a more solid cooperation of nations than the friends of eternal peace have thus far been able to bring about."

But Professor Francke also, in a single sentence quoted from Hegel, indicates what we believe is the real underlying cause of the hostility of all free peoples to the German idea. To Hegel, says Professor Francke, the state is "the manifestation of the divine on earth." This is rather worse than the dominant idea in the middle ages that the church is the manifestation of the divine on earth. Any notion that may class or caste, political or ecclesiastical, is the manifestation of the divine on earth, to which all humanity should be subject, and by which the world's civilization should be framed and fashioned, is absolutely inconsistent with that conception of democracy and that ideal of universal human development in a free atmosphere for which all democracies stand. It is because of this Prussia ideal and the resultant attempt of Prussia to impose this ideal upon other peoples that the free nations of the earth are inevitably opposed to the domination of Prussia. We call this ideal Prussia not German, because there are in-

creasing indications of a revolt among the German people against this immoral conception of the state. Such an indication is furnished by the little but very significant volume by Herman Fernau, "Because I Am a German," written in Switzerland, confiscated in Germany, and now even forbidden public sale in Switzerland, though written by one who describes himself as "born and educated in Prussia" and "generally reputed a good Christian and a law-abiding German citizen by the authorities of my country." His greatest offense is his demonstration that Austria and Germany are responsible for bringing on the war; his next greatest offense is his declaration that "in the twentieth century there ought no longer, under any circumstances, to be two moralities—one for the people at large, and the other for the state and its princes."

The future status of Germany among the civilized nations of the earth depends upon the question whether Hegel as quoted by Professor Kuno Francke or Herman Fernau truly interprets the spirit of Germany.—The Outlook.

#### The Tariff and the Tax.

It is the Democratic theory that the tariff is a tax that is paid out of the pocket of the consumer. During the campaign of 1912 it was the constant cry of the orators of that party, and the chief argument of its writers, that the increased cost of living was due to the protective tariff, which the consumer was paying, and that if it was reduced prices would go down accordingly. The constant reiteration of this special claim undoubtedly influenced many voters. Well, the tariff was reduced. Prices continued to rise, and still continue to rise. Something was wrong with the argument. The orators of this campaign are out pretending that the Underwood tariff has reduced or will reduce prices. But they are still claiming that they have taken the tax off of the consumer, which they would have it understood to mean the "deserving poor," and put it on "privilege." Now, if the consumer has been relieved in any way by this legislative beneficence he ought to know about it. Is there one man in all these United States who can truthfully say that the Underwood tariff has saved him a single dollar in his personal and family expenditures? If there is, an enterprising showman might make some money out of him by putting him on exhibition.

Then let us ask how many men in this broad land have found their expenses increased as a direct consequence of this law. Listen! No, dear reader, the heavens are not falling. The sound is but the reverberations of the affirmative shout that arises from hundreds of thousands of throats. They are too numerous to count; and they are everywhere. No pent-up Wall Street confines them. They are on every street and every roadway in the country. We are not referring now to prices, but to taxes, federal taxes, direct personal taxes coming out of the pocket in visible and tangible cash, and made necessary by the insufficient revenue derived from the Underwood tariff. That law in its first thirty months of operation showed a deficiency of \$225,000,000 as compared with the last thirty months of the Payne Republican tariff. Did the American consumer save that \$225,000,000? Not a dollar of it. But the United States Government lost it, all of it, and had to make up the loss by levying on the consumers through the income tax, the stamp tax, the amusement tax, special taxes on business and so on and so forth. None of these taxes were collected in 1912. Who has profited by the change? No one. Who has lost by it? Let the losers answer for themselves. They are able and willing.

#### Everyone to his Taste.

A Chicago editor says he would like to hear a preacher pray in conversational tones, as if the Lord were present in the room and not a long way off. Yes, and then some son of a sea-cook would complain because the preacher was not in earnest. People are hard to please. The Methodists used to be too demonstrative, the Presbyterians too formal and cold. Yet the Methodists and Presbyterians kept right on attracting the people who liked their style. Most of the preachers these days are dignified in the pulpit and they reach only the people who like that style. When Billy Sunday comes to town the quiet people criticize his words and methods, but the demonstrative people hit the trail at the rate of a thousand a day.

You will find a lot of people who drive an automobile as quietly as possible, and who run at a conservative rate. Then you run across a fellow who opens his muffler and hives down the road at 40 miles an hour. Tastes differ.

#### More than Enough is Too Much.

To maintain health, a mature man or woman needs enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorder of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by Lamars Drug Store.

#### How Catarrh is Contracted.

Mothers are sometimes so thoughtless as to neglect the colds which their children contract. The inflammation of the mucus membrane, at first acute, becomes chronic and the child has chronic catarrh, a disease that is seldom cured and that may prove a life's burden. Many persons who have this loathsome disease will remember having frequent colds at the time it was contracted. A little forethought, a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy judiciously used, and all this trouble might have been avoided. For sale by Lamars Drug Store.



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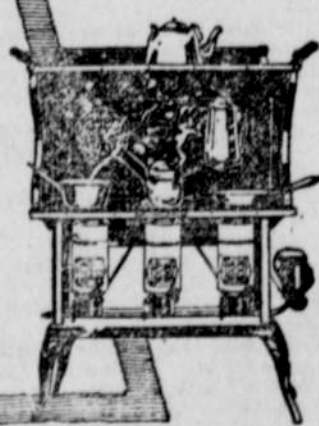
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